

COMBATING THE OPIOIDS CRISIS

Brian E. Shiozawa M.D.

Regional Director, Region 8 (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY)

US Department of Health and Human Services

The opioids epidemic touches everyone.



What is an opioid?

A chemical that can help relieve pain, by interacting with the body and reducing the intensity of pain signals and feelings of pain

Types of opioids

1

Legal prescription medications:
oxycodone (OxyContin),
hydrocodone (Vicodin), Darvon,
morphine and others

2

Illegal drug:
Heroin
Fentanyl

The opioid epidemic by the numbers



4.4%

of the population, or 11.5 million – have Opioid Misuse Disorder.



170

people die from drug overdoses a day – 116 are opioid-related.



13%

Increase in overdose deaths 2016-2017

PART I

The Scope of the Epidemic

SUBSTANCE ABUSE MORTALITY

CDC STATISTICS, AUGUST 2018

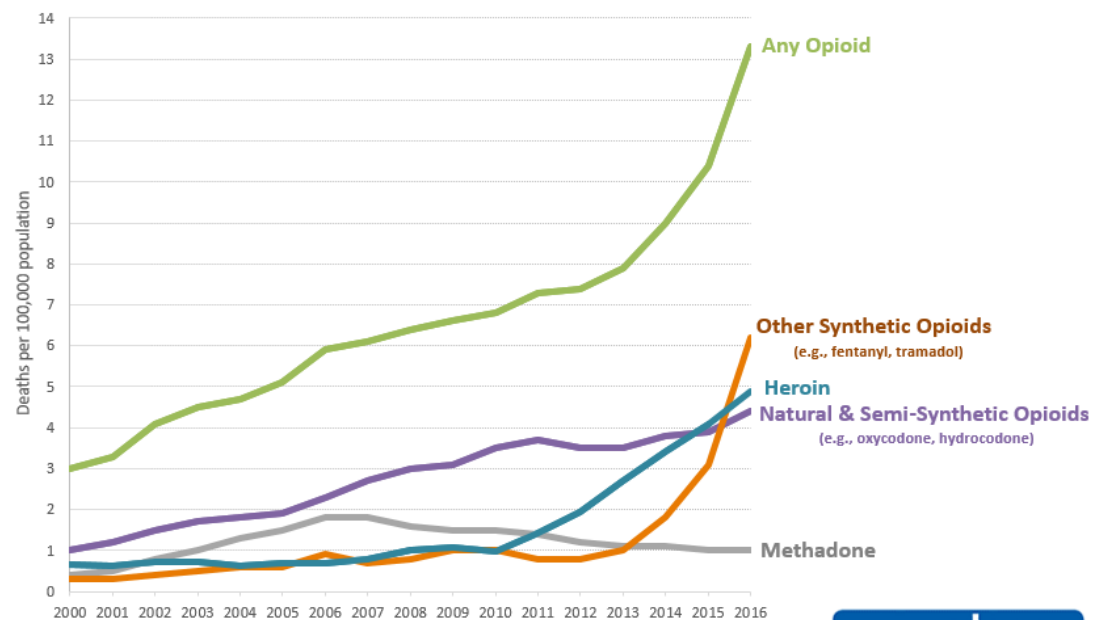
NUMBERS

■ Jan 2017 – Jan 2018

- Drug overdose deaths: 71,568
- Opioid deaths: 48,612
- Drug overdose deaths increased 6.6% from previous year
- Opioid overdose deaths increased 8.5% from previous year

■ June 14, 2018 (CDC YRBS):

- 1 in 7 US High School students report misusing opioids

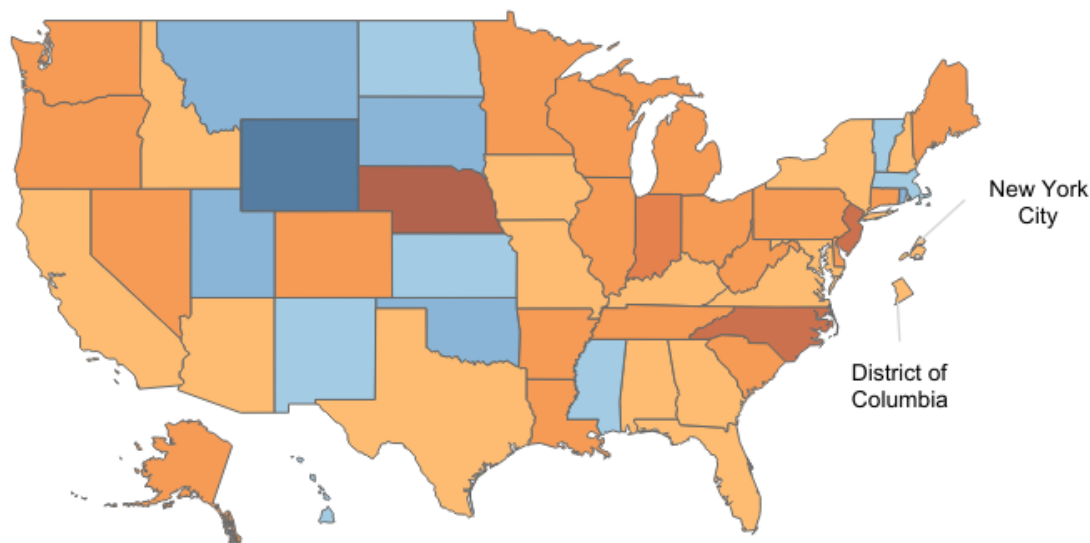


SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality. CDC WONDER, Atlanta, GA: US Department of Health and Human Services, CDC; 2017. <https://wonder.cdc.gov/>.

www.cdc.gov
Your Source for Credible Health Information

STATE COMPARISONS (CDC, August 2018)

Figure 1b. Percent Change in Predicted 12 Month-ending Count of Drug Overdose Deaths, by Jurisdiction:
January 2017 to January 2018



Select predicted
or reported
number of deaths

- Predicted
- Reported

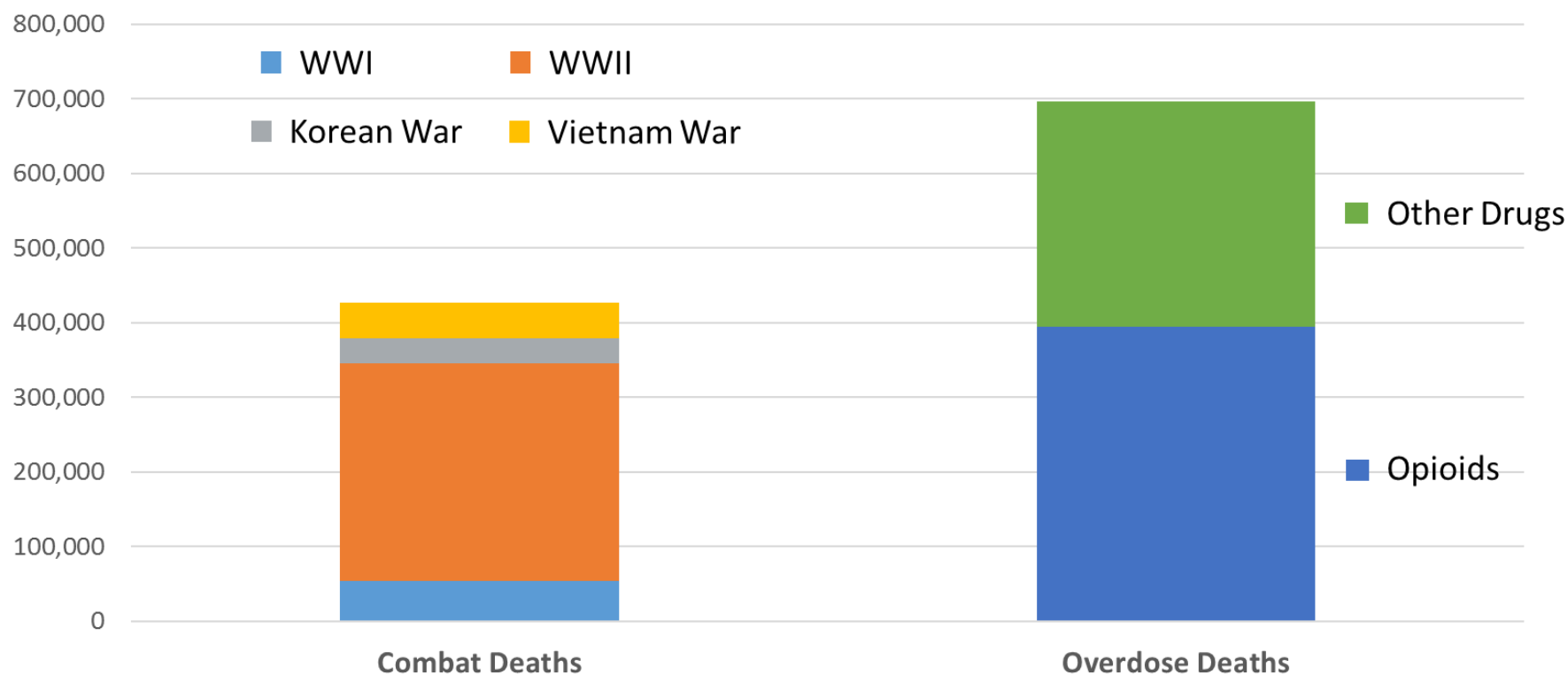
Percent Change for
United States

6.6

Legend for Percent Change in Drug Overdose Deaths Between 12-Month Ending Periods

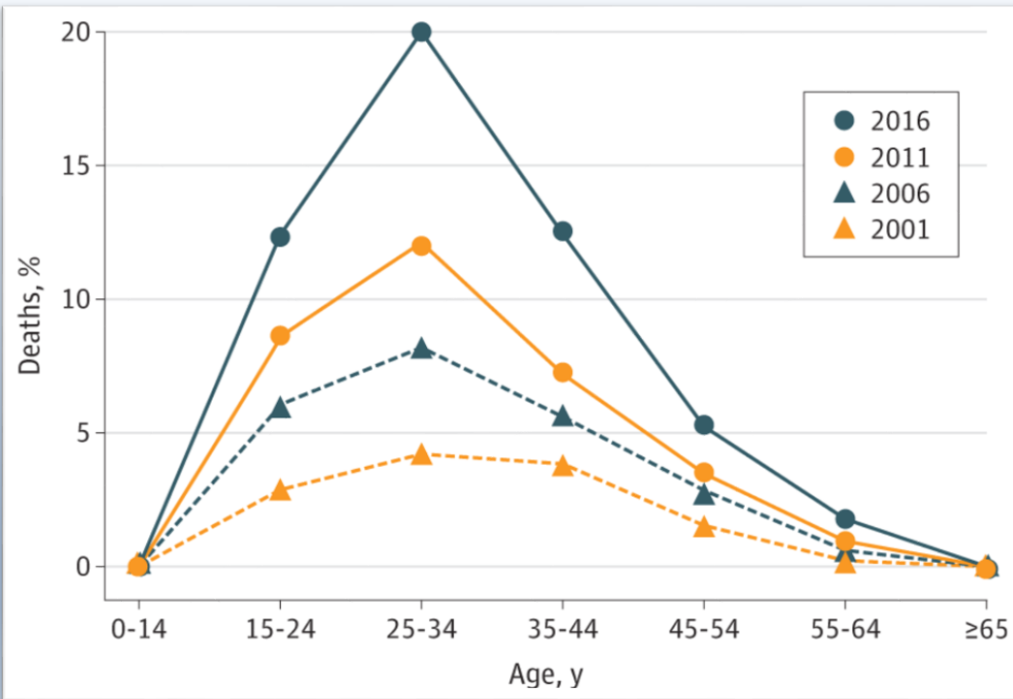


US OVERDOSE DEATHS (1999 -2017) COMPARED TO COMBAT DEATHS



PROPORTION OF DEATHS RELATED TO OPIOIDS BY AGE GROUP

2001, 2006, 2011, and 2016



“The Burden of Opioid-Related Mortality in the United States”



June 2018

Drug overdose deaths

2016 AGE ADJUSTED RATE PER 100,000

West Virginia	52
Ohio	39
Pennsylvania	38
Maryland	33
Delaware	31

Drug overdose deaths

2016 OPIOID DEATHS

Florida	4,728
California	4,654
Pennsylvania	4,627
Ohio	4,329
New York	3,638
Texas	2,831
Illinois	2,411
Michigan	2,347
Massachusetts	2,227
New Jersey	2,056

Drug overdose deaths in Region VIII

2016 AGE ADJUSTED RATE PER 100,000

Colorado	17
Montana	12
North Dakota	11
South Dakota	08
Utah	22
Wyoming	18

2016 OPIOID DEATHS

Colorado	942
Montana	119
North Dakota	77
South Dakota	69
Utah	635
Wyoming	99

How we got here

Overprescribing and rising supply

- **Denial** about the addictive potential of opioids
- “**Pain** as a fifth vital sign”
- **Reimbursement** and quality assessment based on satisfaction with pain treatment
- **Rise of black-tar heroin** and then fentanyl
- **Low cost of legal opioids** and their widespread availability

Treacherous potency

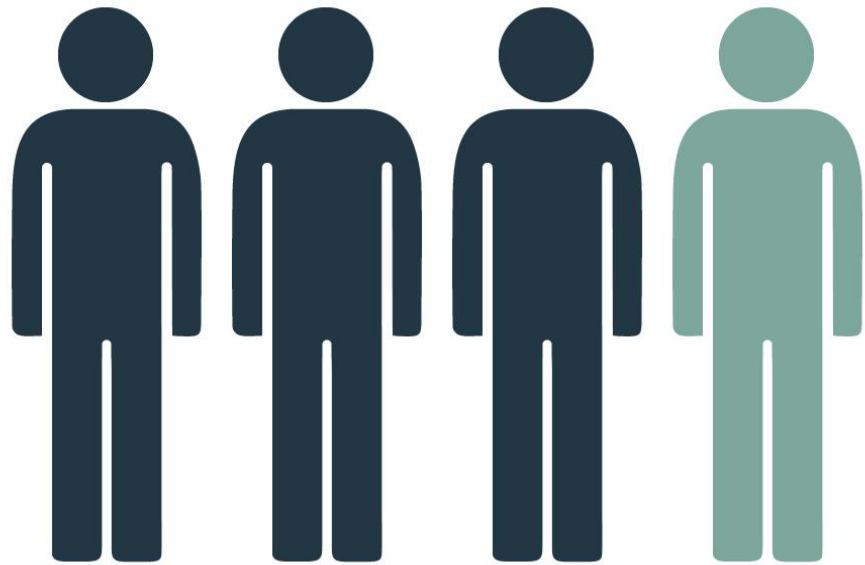
Lethal doses of heroin,
fentanyl, and carfentanyl

[LEFT TO RIGHT]

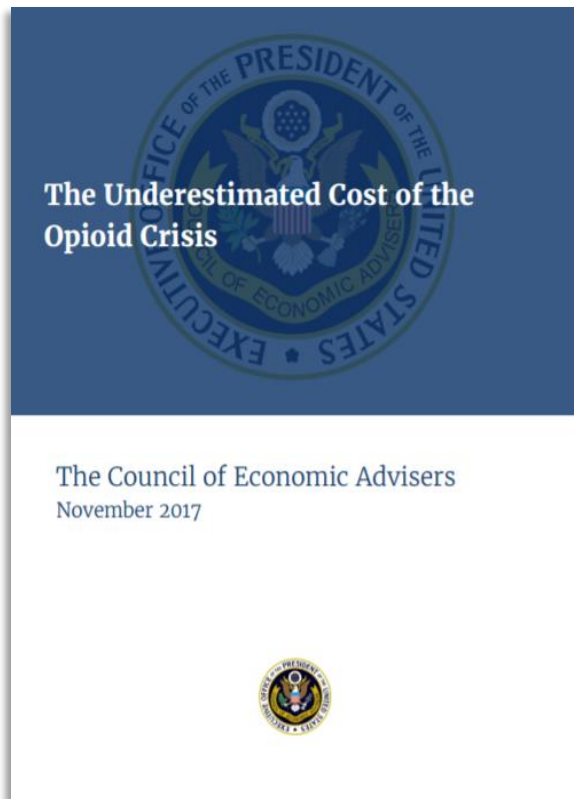


Risk factors for misuse

3 out of 4 people who used
heroin in the past year misused
prescription opioids first



ECONOMIC COSTS TO THE UNITED STATES

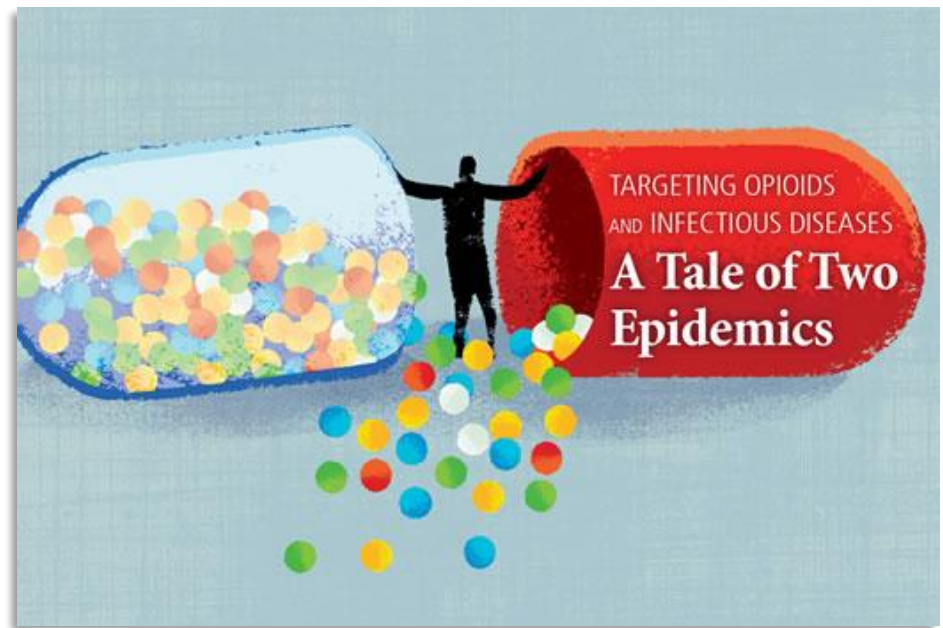


In 2015, the economic cost of the opioid crisis was **\$504 billion**

“previous estimates of the economic cost of the opioid crisis greatly understate it by undervaluing the most important component of the loss—fatalities resulting from overdoses”

INFECTIOUS CONSEQUENCES OF THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

- HIV
- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis C
- Endocarditis
- Skin, bone, and joint infections

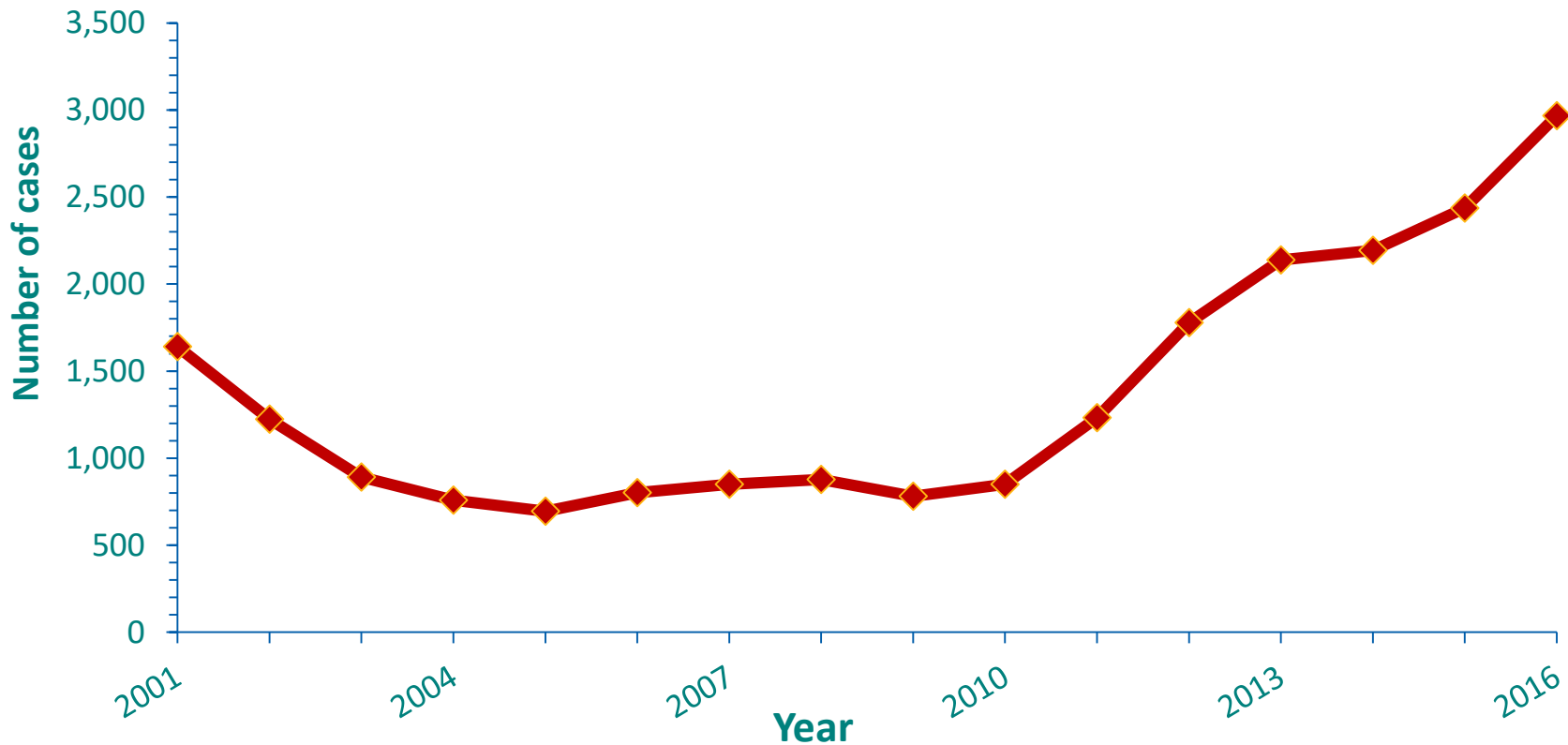


National Academies Workshop

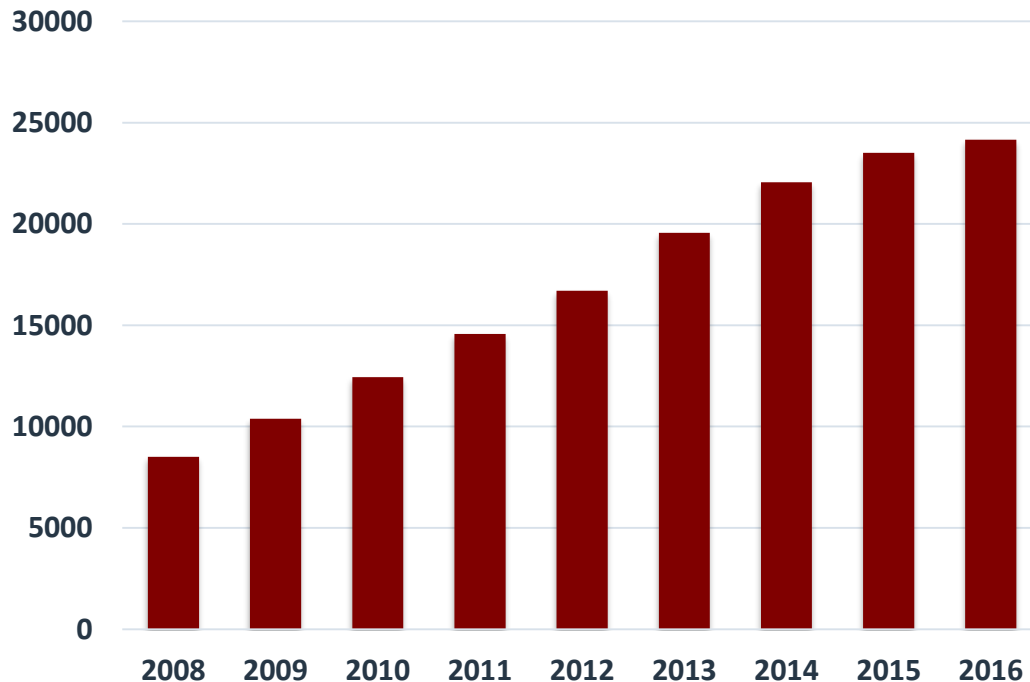
Sponsored by OASH, Report July 2018

ACUTE HEPATITIS C INFECTIONS SOAR

2010-2016: 233% Increase



NUMBER OF BABIES BORN WITH NAS (US)



Source: AHRQ HCUP State Inpatient Databases

Outcomes in the fetus

- Growth restriction
- Prematurity
- Death

Outcomes in the Newborn

- Low birthweight
- Small head circumference
- Neonatal abstinence syndrome

Outcomes in the Child

- Developmental disorders

McQueen, NEJM 2016

Opioid Use in Pregnancy (US)

Opioid Use in Pregnancy

Opioid use in pregnancy can cause severe withdrawal symptoms in newborns, leading to higher hospital costs.

Hospital Costs



PART II

HHS Response

HHS mission

Enhance and protect the health
and well-being of all Americans

ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES



ATSDR



HRSA
Health Resources & Services Administration



Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
SAMHSA

Complete strategy

HHS Five-point strategy to combat the opioids crisis



Better addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery services



Better data



Better pain management



Better targeting of overdose reversing drugs



Better research

HHS Goals

Improving access to prevention, treatment, and recovery services



Prevent the health, social, and economic consequences associated with opioid addiction and enable individuals to achieve long-term recovery.

- Supporting services
- Targeting populations
- Providing education
- Strengthening collaborations

HHS Goals

Strengthening timely public health data and reporting

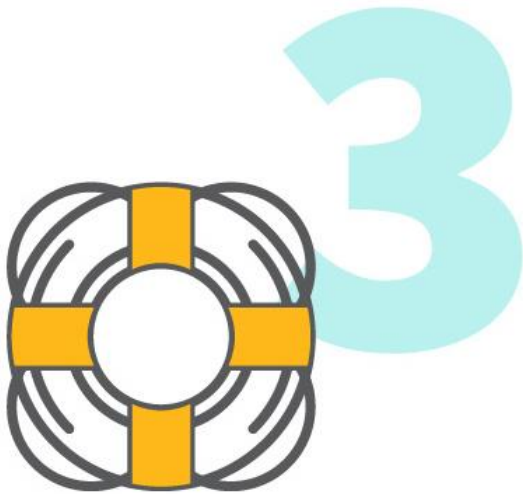


Improve the timeliness and specificity of data to inform a real-time public health response as the epidemic evolves.

- Enhanced surveillance
- Data sharing

HHS Goals

Advancing the practice
of pain management



Enable access to high-quality, evidence-based pain care that reduces the burden of pain for individuals, families, and society while also reducing the inappropriate use of opioids and opioid-related harms.

- Developing policies
- Providing education

HHS Goals

Making overdose-reversing drugs available



Ensure the broad provision of overdose-reversal drugs to people likely to experience or respond to an overdose, with a particular focus on targeting high-risk populations

- Building capacity
- Providing education

Surgeon General's Recent Advisory

HHS Goals

Supporting cutting-edge research

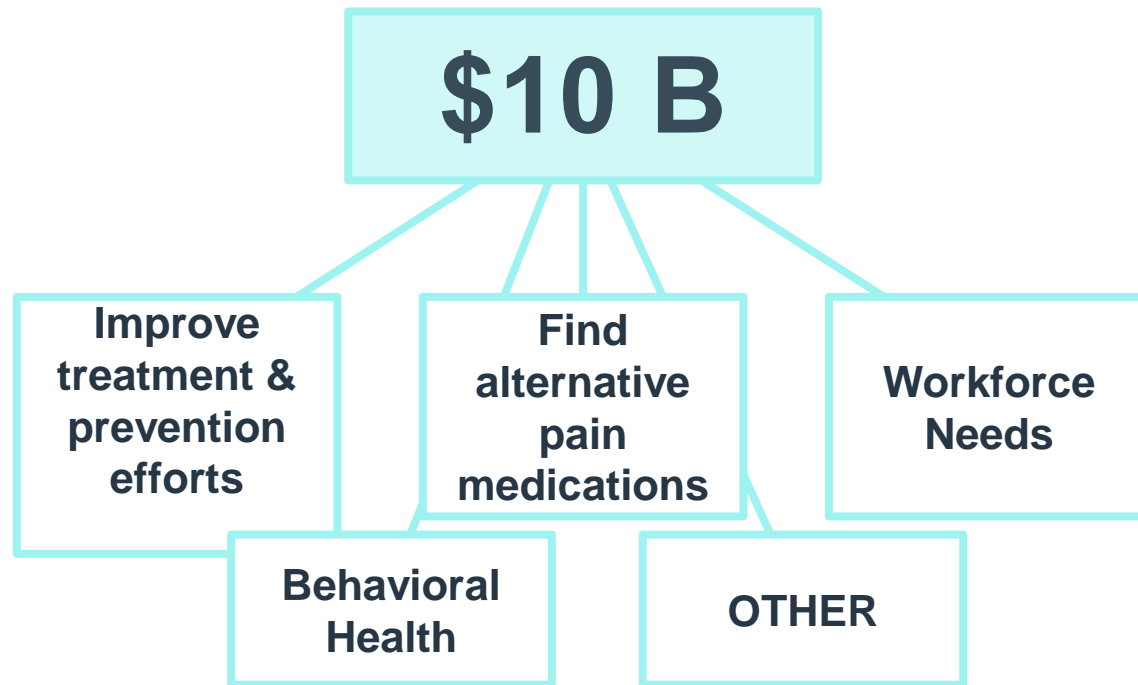


Advance our understanding of pain and addiction, support the development of new treatments, and identify effective public health interventions to reduce opioid-related harms.

- Understanding pain
- Addiction and overdose
- Epidemiology and policy

FY2017

Estimated HHS opioid-related
funding (in millions) for 2019 & beyond



Key actions

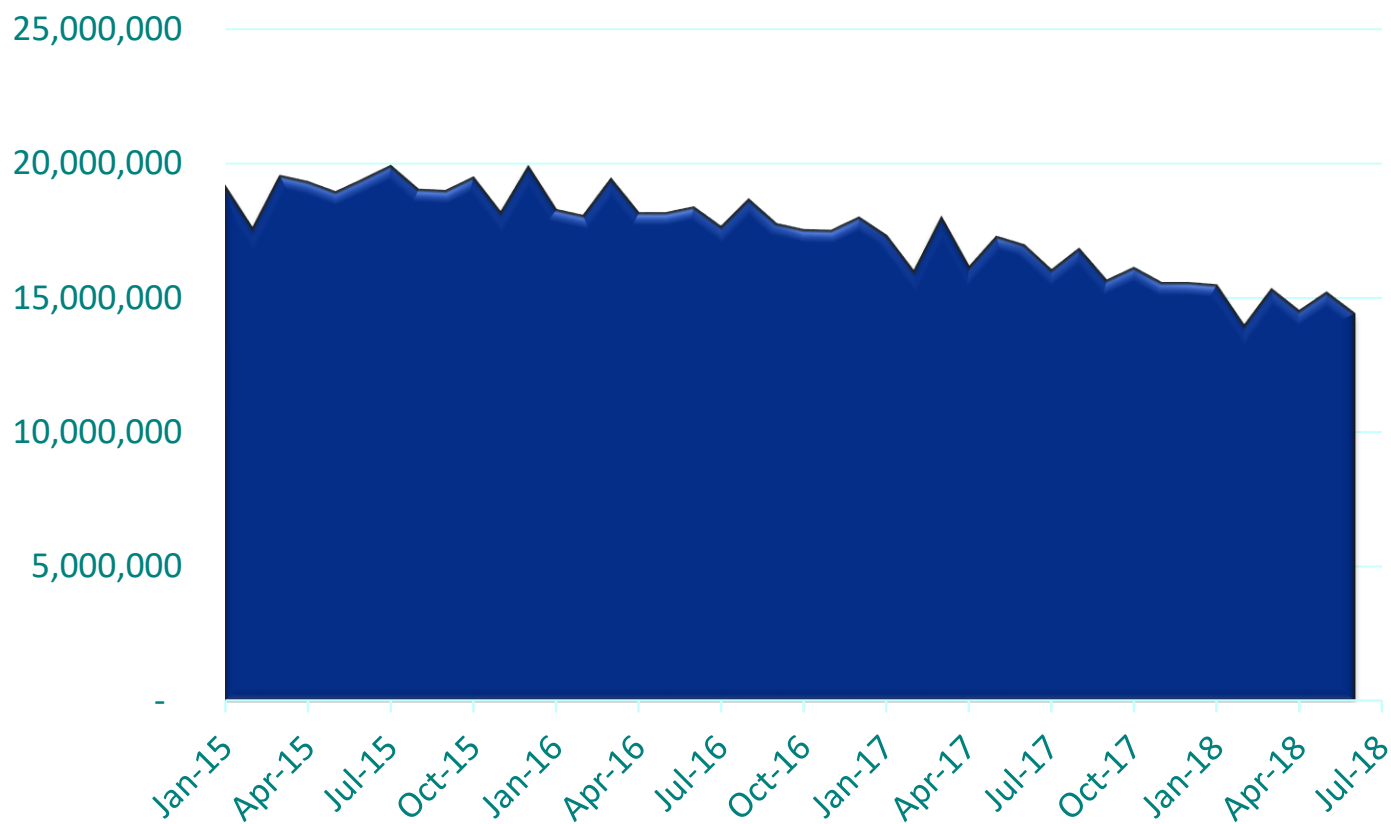
SELECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Spending:** Dramatic increase in Federal funding
- **FDA:** Expands treatment formulations; Ramps up investigations to intercept fentanyl coming into the country; Gets the opioid Opana ER out of the marketplace
- **CMS** – Restricts Medicare opioid prescriptions for acute pain to 7 days.
- **CMS** – Creates Substance Use Disorder Waivers
- **NIH** - Doubles investment in opioid research, to \$1.1 billion.
- **CDC** - Speeding up release of preliminary overdose death data.
- **Surgeon General** expands access to overdose reversing drugs.
- **SAMHSA** – STR Grants, Provides \$44.7 million to equip first responders with naloxone
- **OCR HIPPA Guidance** – Doctor's can now tell family of loved ones about life threatening addiction.

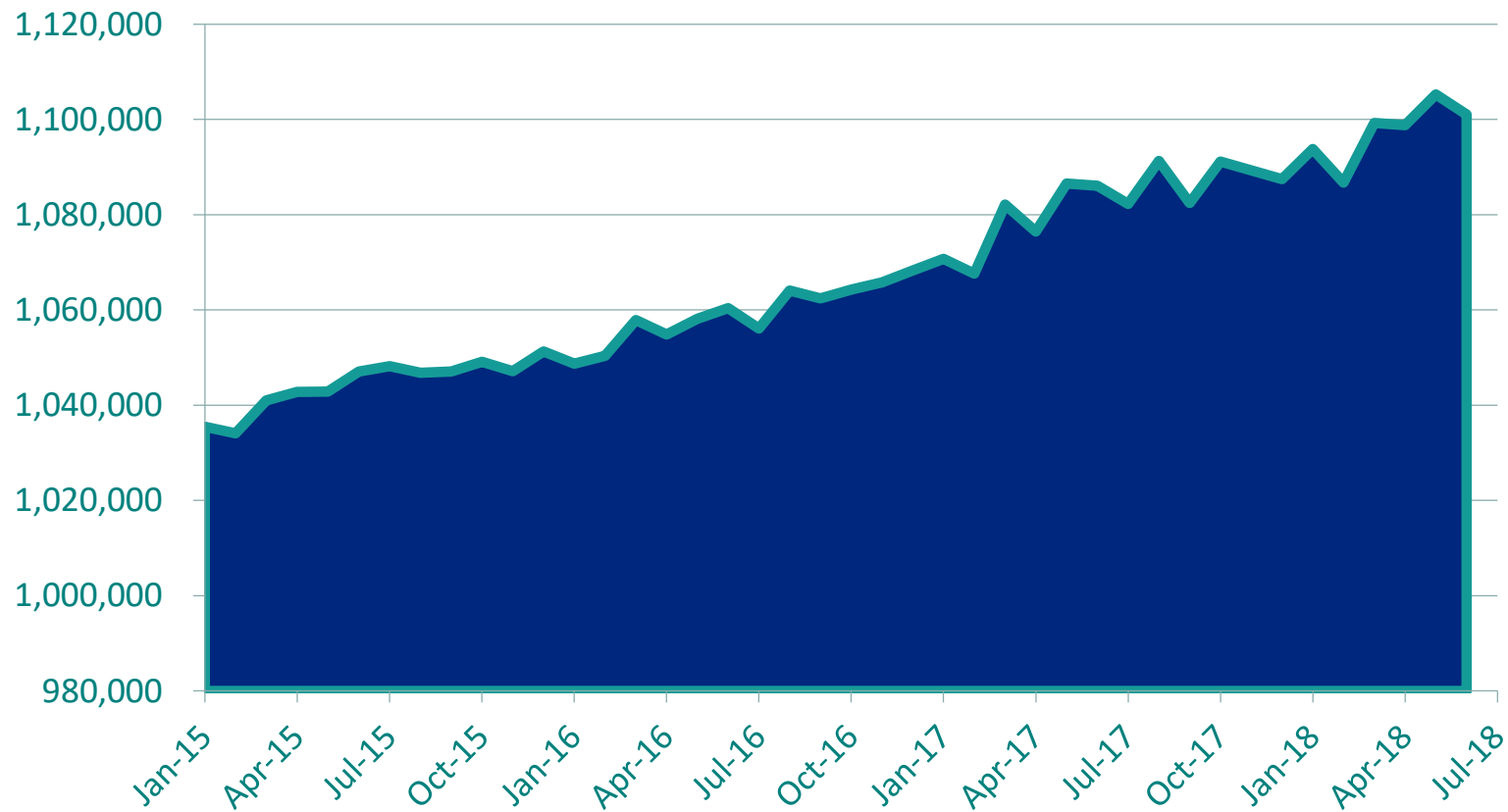
PART III

Emerging Signs of Progress

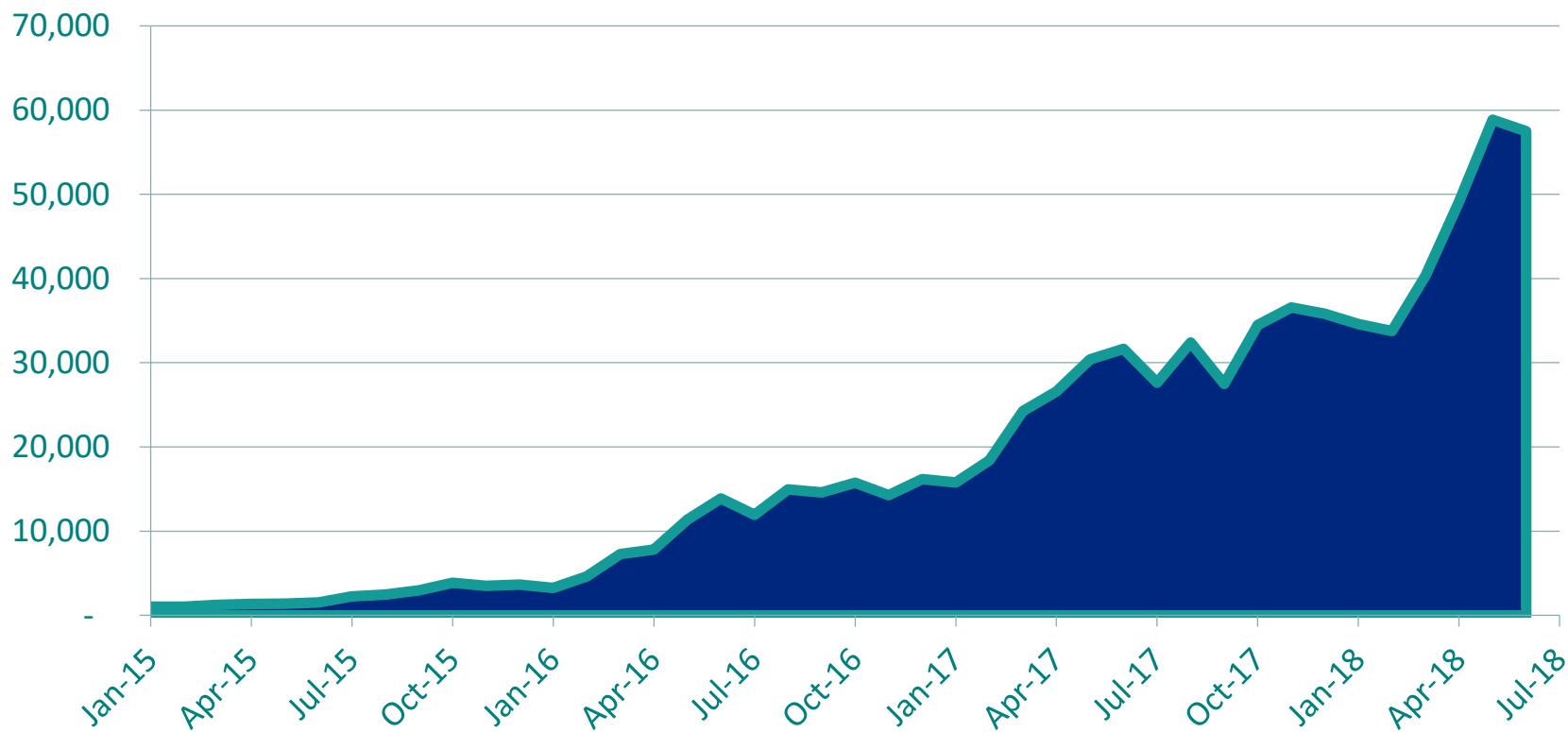
US OPIOID PRESCRIPTIONS (MONTHLY, DOWN 24%)



US BUPRENORPHINE AND NALTREXONE PRESCRIPTIONS (MONTHLY, UP 145%)



US NALOXONE PRESCRIPTIONS (MONTHLY, UP 5400%)



Signs of Progress

- Youth prescription opioid misuse declining over past decade; heroin use stable among youth
- Prescription opioid misuse initiation declining
- Plateauing of overdose deaths involving commonly prescribed opioids
- Some states seeing a leveling off of overdose deaths

HHS OUD- RELATED INITIATIVES IN DEVELOPMENT

- Integrating programs across the USG to substantially impact SUD, overdoses, and deaths in highly stricken communities
- Addressing barriers to SUD treatment and recovery in rural communities
- Assuring adequate pain management for special needs patient populations (cancer, sickle cell disease, other debilitating conditions)
- Expanding the current CDC guidelines to include specific recommendations for certain conditions or medical procedures
- Transforming the US healthcare workforce to meet behavioral health needs across the spectrum (SUD, Alcohol, Smoking, Health Behaviors)

Conclusion



Updated Resources

ABOUT THE EPIDEMIC

What is the U.S. Opioid Epidemic?

Opioid Crisis Statistics

HHS Response: 5-Point Strategy

Better Prevention, Treatment & Recovery Services

Better Data

Better Pain Management

Better Availability of Overdose-Reversing Drugs

Better Research

Videos & Social Media

Opioid Crisis Statistics

[Data Overview of the Opioid Epidemic](#)

Drug overdose deaths and opioid-involved deaths continue to increase in the United States. Deaths from drug overdose are up among both men and women, all races, and adults of nearly all ages.

[CDC One-Stop Location for Online Public Health Data](#)

Access statistical research data published by CDC, as well as reference materials, reports and guidelines on health-related topics

[SAMHSA Data Collections](#)

SAMHSA publishes data and reports on populations and facilities related to Mental Health and Substance abuse. Data helps SAMHSA and the nation assess the impact of the changes to US health care systems and identify and address behavioral health disparities.

[Vital Signs: Prescription Painkiller Overdoses](#)

A series of reports detailing various aspects of the health threat and what can be done to drive down the problem. Each issue includes a graphic fact sheet and website, a media release, and social media tools.

[Monitoring the Future: 2017 Teen Survey Results on Drug and Alcohol Use and Attitudes](#)

Misuse of all prescription opioids among 12th graders has dropped dramatically in the past 15 years, from 9.6 percent in 2002 to 2.0 percent in 2017 despite high opioid overdose rates among adults.

[Trends in Opioid-related Healthcare Research](#)

AHRQ is increasing the evidence base with data and research and provides a forum where communities can share their tools for combating the issue of opioid misuse.

[Dramatic Increases in Maternal Opioid Use and Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome](#)

Use of opiates during pregnancy can result in a drug withdrawal syndrome in newborns called neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS). There was a five-fold increase in the proportion of babies born with NAS from 2000 to 2012

[OIG Report On Opioid Prescribing Within the Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Program](#). Key findings:

1. One in three Medicare Part D beneficiaries received a prescription opioid in 2016,
2. About 500,000 beneficiaries received high amounts of opioids,
3. Almost 90,000 beneficiaries are at serious risk, and
4. About 400 prescribers had questionable opioid prescribing patterns for beneficiaries at serious risk.

Thank you

NATIONAL **HELP**  **LINE**

800-662-HELP (4357)

